interactive SOLUTIONS

The iCommunicator Version 3.0 User Guide

Part No. IC6100002 Rev. E

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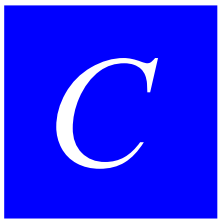

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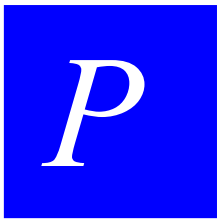

Preface

Interactive Solutions, Inc. (ISI) is a technology company specializing in the development of assistive educational and communication access software technology. The iCommunicator software program provides the functions that let you manage a full range of multimedia types, including full-motion video with CD-quality sound with a high-end laptop or desktop personal computer.

This guide gives you all the information you need to know how to begin using the program, how to train your computer to recognize voice and speech patterns, and how to create and control text, sounds, and sign language videos.

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Interactive Solutions Customer Service

Call Interactive Solutions at 941.753.5000 x 3300 for information about iCommunicator training options.

Interactive Solutionsí Customer Service is available to answer your questions about product availability, upgrades, features, customer registration, policies, procedures, and other non-technical topics.

The following services are available to registered Interactive Solutions customers:

Telephone Service

You can call Customer Service for 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday (Eastern Time). The number is 941.753.5000 x 3300
TheTDD/TTY number is 800-362-4584

Registration Status

Customer Service can answer questions about your registration status. Please have your product serial number ready when you call 941.753.5000 x 3300.

Change of Address

Customer Service handles customer address changes. Send a letter that includes both your old and new address to:

Customer Service
Interactive Solutions, Inc.
6448 Parkland Drive
Sarasota, FL 34243-4038
ATTN: CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Defective or Damaged Products

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Send the defective part, a brief explanation, and payment (if necessary) to:

Customer Service
Interactive Solutions
6448 Parkland Drive
Sarasota, FL 34243-4038

ATTN: REPLACEMENT MEDIA

Product Upgrades and Updates

For warranty, upgrades, registration, change of address, and technical questions, call Customer Service at 941.753.5000 x 3303

Notes

information and the way the computer presents that information. You can also store up to 24 preprogrammed messages and deliver them simply by pressing assigned function keys. For more information on effective strategies for using the iCommunicator software program, consult the professional training manual.

Minimum Hardware Specifications

The iCommunicator software program works with a Pentium III-based multimedia computing system. The 3.0 software and peripheral kit includes:

iCommunicator Software Kit V 3.0
Dragon NaturallySpeaking 6.0 Preferred
iCommunicator User Guide, Training Manual, and Tutorial CD
Hardware security key (dongle)
Audio Cables (connector cable, Y-cable)
Microphone options wireless or wired

Professional LightSPEED LES 360 wireless RF system with TK-150 noise canceling microphone (LightSPEED system includes 360R receiver, 360T transmitter and TK-150 microphone, BC-4 battery charger & cables, 2 NiMH rechargeable batteries.)

Standard Parrott Bermuda direct-connect microphone

The iCommunicator software application requires the following minimum laptop or desktop computer hardware and software:

Processor Pentium III 800MHz
Memory 256 MB RAM
Hard Drive must have 2 GB of available space on Drive C
Video 8MB
Display Resolution 800x600 screen area capability; high quality
Sound/Speakers SoundBlaster Pro Compatible
CD-ROM 24X (or DVD-ROM)
Software Word Processing Program
Operating System Microsoft Windows XP, Windows 2000, or Windows 98SE (Interactive Solutions recommends Windows XP or 2000 for maximum performance.)

1

Introduction

Welcome to the iCommunicator, Version 3.0, software program developed by Interactive Solutions, Inc. The iCommunicator program helps persons who are deaf, hard-of-hearing, or those with other communication challenges achieve two-way communication. It is an interactive solution to communication accessibility needs in educational, workplace, and public access venues. The iCommunicator is also a teaching tool that helps improve literacy skills.

The iCommunicator software program converts speech into multiple streams of data for simultaneous presentation of text, video-sign language, and computer-generated speech. The iCommunicator software works with Dragon NaturallySpeaking speech recognition software allowing you to train your computer to recognize voice and speech patterns. The program stores these voice files for immediate access.

The iCommunicator Software Program

The iCommunicator software program converts human speech to digitally-imaged sign language, computer-generated speech, and text printed on the computer screen. Likewise, it lets you type words and phrases that the program converts to computer-generated speech and then relays to audio speakers or peripheral hearing devices. For persons with hearing loss, the iCommunicator program generates speech and sends it to cochlear implants, FM systems, and hearing aids. It provides a clear audio stream, stripped of extraneous background noises.

The iCommunicator program lets you choose how you want to deliver your information. You can choose to activate sign language (with or without audio) and fingerspelling of words. It lets you control the speed of the

Before you begin using your iCommunicator software program, please take a moment to review your computer components. Not all computers operate the same. Please refer to your computerís hardware guide for detailed operating procedures.

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Getting Started

Before you turn on your computer, connect all the hardware and verify that all the cables are properly secured. Refer to the iCommunicator Installation Guide sheet included with your software and peripheral kit.

Connect the LightSPEED receiver (professional kit) or the direct-connect microphone (standard kit) to the microphone jack on the PC.

Connect the audio Y- cable to the audio output jack.

Connect the AC power cord to your PC.

If your computer is a desktop PC, connect the keyboard, mouse, and monitor before you turn it on.

Power on the unit.

Verify that the batteries for the transmitter and receiver are fully charged. Fully charged batteries last for three to four hours of normal use. ISI recommends that you change the transmitter batteries when the battery indicator light on the top of the unit shows a low (red LED) condition.

Install the software using the Installation Guide provided with your software kit. You will be performing either a new installation or an upgrade as described below.

New Installation. If you do not have a previous version installed on your computer, you will be completing a new installation. After

installation you will be directed to immediately Create a New User, that is, build a speech/voice recognition file. This is necessary so that you will be able to speak to your computer and have it recognize your speech and voice characteristics. Refer to Modules 3 and 4 in the Training Manual for directions.

Upgrade Installation. If you currently have the iCommunicator software V.2.1.1 installed, follow the iCommunicator V.3.0 Upgrade Procedure. This allows each speaker with a speech/voice recognition file to continue to use their speaker file with the new software. In addition to installing the iCommunicator software, you will upgrade Dragon NaturallySpeaking from Version 5.0 to Version 6.0. After you complete the upgrade, open the iCommunicator program. Each speaker must run the Audio Setup for the program to recognize his/her speech/voice file.

3

Using Your iCommunicator Software Program

Start the iCommunicator program from the Windows Start button, or double-click the icon on your desktop. The program is ready when the microphone is on.

> **Note:** We recommend that you close all other applications while using iCommunicator. Opening additional windows can slow your iCommunicator program.

To begin using the iCommunicator program and peripheral kit after you properly install the software, you must first select the speech/voice recognition files you want to use. These are the files created in the New User Wizard. (Refer to Chapter 4, Voice Recognition). The speech/voice recognition files contain all the information that Dragon NaturallySpeaking gathers about the speaker.

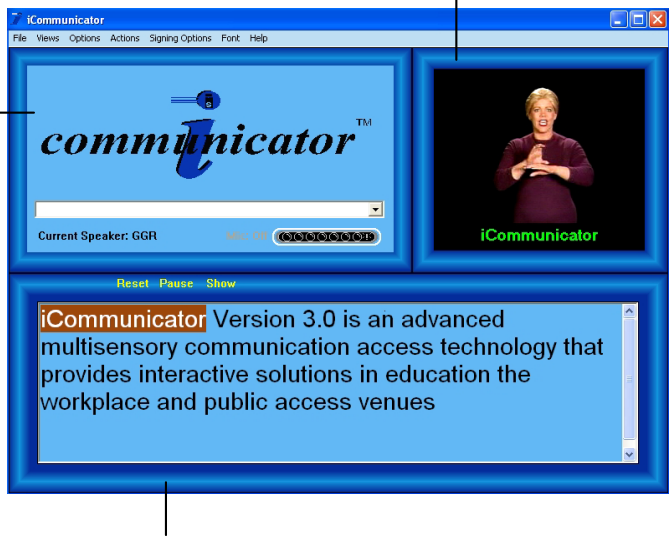
Parts of the iCommunicator Program Main Screen

The following describes the elements of the iCommunicator window that are your tools for effective communication. Youíll learn more about how to use window elements throughout this manual. The following illustration shows the various elements of the iCommunicator screens and includes a brief explanation of each element.

Signing Window:
Speech and text are converted to sign language and fingerspelling in this window. You can change the speed of the signing.

Control Window:
Use the menu options to control the iCommunicator program.

You can also send messages and note text from this window.


iCommunicator
File Views Options Actions Signing Options Font Help
communicator™
Current Speaker: GGR
iCommunicator
Reset Pause Show
iCommunicator Version 3.0 is an advanced multisensory communication access technology that provides interactive solutions in education the workplace and public access venues

Text Window:
Text converted from speech appears in this window.

Your iCommunicator program contains three windows joined together in one display. If you choose, you can separate the windows and control its size and display. Your iCommunicator program remembers your window settings until you change them.

The iCommunicator Windows

Control Window - This window controls the iCommunicator programís speech recognition. You can change the speech recognition options, enter text for conversion to speech, enter text as a note, and manage your microphone.

Signing Window - This window displays sign language and fingerspelling videos.

Text Window - This window displays text converted from speech or text files. You can add your own notes to this window and save it in .RTF format. You can then later review the contents using iCommunicator, or edit the contents using a standard word processor.

Using the Menus

The standard iCommunicator screen has pull-down menus on its menu bar. Examples of these menus are File, Views, Options, Actions, Signing Options, Font, and Help. To view the selections available in these menus, click the name of the menu you want to view. Move the mouse pointer down to highlight the item you want, and then click the left mouse button to select it.

When you choose the custom mode, the menus function the same, but may appear on a different window. For example, the Signing Options menu appears on the Signing Window.

File Menu

Use	To
New	Clear the text window and prepare a new file. When you select this option, the iCommunicator program removes the text from the window, but does not save it. If you want to save any text in this window, you must do so prior to selecting New.
Open	Open an existing file saved in one of the following formats: ASCII text (.txt), Microsoft Word (.doc), Rich Text Format (.rtf), Corel WordPerfect (.wpd), and Hypertext Markup Language (.htm and .html).
Save	Save the changes to an existing file.

Use	To
Save As	Name and save the text displayed in the Text window as a file.
Exit	Close the iCommunicator program and return to your desktop. You can also click on the X in the upper right corner of the Control window to exit the iCommunicator program.

Views Menu

Use	To
Themes	Change the border display and color themes for the iCommunicator program windows.
Standard Mode is selected	Control the window display. A check mark indicates the iCommunicator is operating in the standard (three windows joined) mode. Deselect this menu option to separate and control the three windows independently.

Options Menu

Use	To
Microphone On	Toggle microphone on or off.
Autosave every (n) minutes	Select automatic save options or restore the last auto save. The iCommunicator program saves the text window every 5 to 60 minutes.
Speak Incoming Words	Convert recognized words to audible, computer-generated speech and transmit it to the hearing assistive device.
Set Talking Voice	Change the tone, pitch, and speed of the computer-generated voice. Choose between male or female voices.
Edit Quick Say keys	Edit the Quick Say phrases assigned to function keys. The iCommunicator program stores up to twenty-four Quick Say messages.
Clear Text Window when starting	Display an empty text window each time you turn on the program.
Speech Recognition	Change the current speaker, add a new user, save speech files, run General Training for voice recognition, run Audio Wizard, delete a speaker, run Vocabulary Builder, or show Results box.

Actions Menu

Use	To
Reset	Halt the computer-generated speech, turn off signing, and reset the microphone.
Pause	Temporarily halts the text window, signing, and computer-generated speech. Select Pause again to restart.
Show	Displays sign for a word selected with the cursor.
Sign Text Window	Sign the words in the text window without generating a voice.
Speak Text Window	Convert the words in the text window to audible computer-generated speech and send it to the hearing assistive device (without the Signing option).
Sign and Speak Text Window	Sign words in text window and generate audible computer-generated voice at the same time.

You can choose where an action starts. Place your cursor in the text box and click where you want the action to begin before you select the Actions menu command.

TIP: The Action menu commands **Reset** and **Pause** also appear on the top border of the Text Window. Simply click to use the Action command. When you click Pause, the Text Windowís display changes to ìCont inueî. Click **Continue** to restart the action.

Signing Options Menu

Use	To
Word List	Display a list of words in the signing video library. Choose a word from the drop-down list, and then click the check mark to view the associated signing video.
Enable Signing	Start or stop the signing videos.
Fastest	Set the signing speed at the fastest level.
7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2	Control the speed of signing. The higher the number you choose, the faster the signing.
Slowest	Set the signing speed at the slowest level.

Font Menu

The font menu lets you choose the font size for text in the text window. The default size is 16 points; however, you can choose from several options.

Help Menu

Use	To
Contents	Display a list of help topics, view an index, or search the help system for a topic.
Hot Keys	Display a list of hot keys and their function
About	Display license information about the iCommunicator program.

Hot Keys and Shortcuts

You can quickly execute iCommunicator menu commands using keyboard combinations. The key combination displays on the menu along with the command. To display a list of all hot keys, select Hot Keys from the Help menu. Hold the first key down (Ctrl or Alt), then touch the key shown with it to use the shortcut.

Hot Key Combination	Menu	iCommunicator Menu Command
Ctrl+A	File	Save As
Ctrl+B	Actions	Sign and Speak Text Window
Ctrl+D	View	Return to Defaults
Ctrl+E	View	enable Signing Window
Ctrl+G	Actions	Sign Text Window
Ctrl+H	Help	Displays list of Hot keys
Ctrl+I	Options	Speak Incoming Words
Ctrl+K	Actions	Speak Text Window
Ctrl+N	File	New
Ctrl+O	File	Open
Ctrl + M	Options	Toggles microphone on/off
Ctrl+P	Actions	Pause
Ctrl+R	Actions	Reset
Ctrl+S	File	Save
Ctrl+W	Signing Option	Word List
Ctrl+Enter	N/A	Notes Say This box

The Control Window

The Control window lets you manage speech options. Use the Control window to:

change the speaker you want your computer to recognize

manage the microphone

enter text you want spoken

add notes to the text window

Menu Options:
Select menu options to control iCommunicator.

Say This-Note This:
Type your responses in this box. Click the down arrow to view previous messages.

Current Speaker:
Click here to select speech voice recognition files.

Microphone ON/OFF Button:
Click here to turn microphone ON and OFF.

Microphone Status Bar:
Click here to toggle the microphone ON and OFF.

Joining and Separating the Windows

The iCommunicator contains three windows joined together. You can customize your program by turning off the standard mode. You can then control and move each of the three window elements independently.

To separate and move a window:

1. **From the Views menu, deselect Standard Mode is selected.**

   The windows separate.

2. **Click and hold down the left mouse button and drag the window to the desired location.**

3. **Release the mouse button.**

To move all windows at the same time:

1. **Position your pointing device on a window border.**

2. **Hold down the right mouse button and drag to the desired location.**

To return to the standard mode:

From the Control Window Views menu, select Change to Standard Mode.

Minimizing and Restoring the iCommunicator Windows

The standard Microsoft Windows buttons located in the upper-right corner of the iCommunicator title bar provide a quick and easy way to minimize, maximize, restore, and exit the iCommunicator program. When you choose the custom (windows separate) mode, icons appear in the upper-right corner of each window.

Use	To
	Reduce (minimize) the iCommunicator program to a button on the task bar. Click the taskbar button to open iCommunicator again.
	Decrease the Control window size.
	Increase the Control window Size.
	Exit the iCommunicator program and return to your desktop.

The Microphone Status Bar

The microphone status bar shows how your microphone is working. Color appears over the background to indicate the current status.

Color	Status
yellow	on and ready to receive speech
green	in use and receiving
red	audio level is too high.
black	microphone is off

Note: Run the Audio Wizard option if you see red on the microphone status bar. (Refer to Chapter 4, Audio Wizard)

Use the microphone status bar to turn the microphone off and on. Move the mouse pointer directly over the microphone status bar and click it once to turn the microphone OFF. Click again to turn ON. The default is ON.

Microphone ON/OFF Button

Click the ON/OFF button to manage the microphone.

The Say This/Note This Text Box

The iCommunicator program enables the computer to speak for you. Type what you want to say and press Enter. The iCommunicator program converts the text to computer-generated speech and sends it to speakers and to hearing assistive devices.

You can also use the Say This/Note This text box to add your own notes to the text window. Press the Control/Enter to include your note. Notice that iCommunicator encloses your notes with arrows. The Note This function does not generate voice.

The Speaking Status Bar

The speaking status bar shows your program is processing the words you type in the Say This/Note This text box. Color flashes over the background to indicate computer-generated voice is transmitting. When transmission is complete, the speaking status bar disappears.

Speaking Status Bar:
Appears when processing Say This/Note This text box.

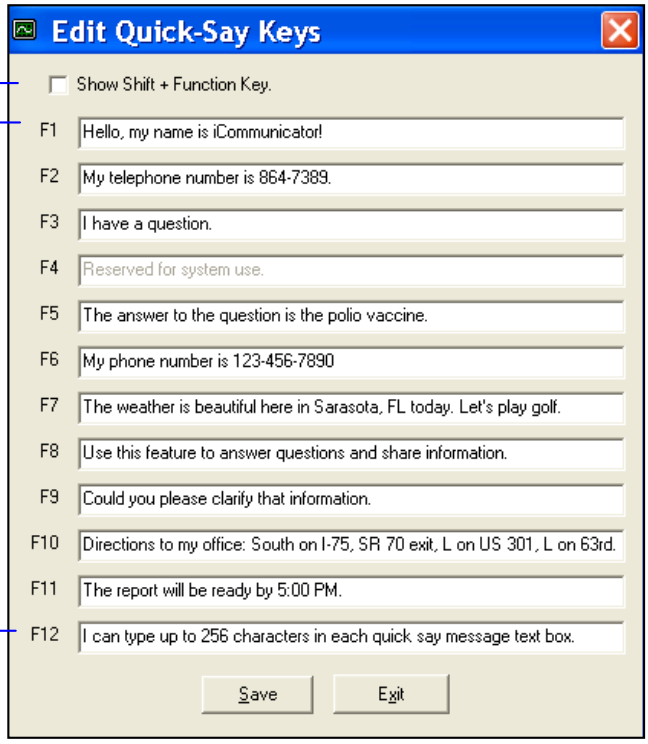
Quick Say Function Keys

You can preprogram up to twenty-four Quick Say messages and generate audible, computer-generated speech by pressing the function key assigned to your message. The iCommunicator program converts the text to a computer-generated voice and relays it to speakers and hearing assistive devices.

Click in the check box to view the second set of Quick Say buttons. Press Shift and the function key to speak the additional messages.

You can enter twelve Quick Say messages in this screen. Press a function key to tell iCommunicator to say that message.

***Note:** When you press a function key, iCommunicator first displays the message in the Say This, Note This text box. You can add more text, if you choose. Press Enter to say the message.*


Edit Quick-Say Keys
Show Shift + Function Key.
F1 Hello, my name is iCommunicator!
F2 My telephone number is 864-7389.
F3 I have a question.
F4 Reserved for system use.
F5 The answer to the question is the polio vaccine.
F6 My phone number is 123-456-7890
F7 The weather is beautiful here in Sarasota, FL today. Let's play golf.
F8 Use this feature to answer questions and share information.
F9 Could you please clarify that information.
F10 Directions to my office: South on I-75, SR 70 exit, L on US 301, L on 63rd.
F11 The report will be ready by 5:00 PM.
F12 I can type up to 256 characters in each quick say message text box.
Save
Exit

To create a quick say message:

1. **From the Options menu, select Edit Quick Say Keys.**

   The Edit Quick Say Keys box appears, listing function keys F1 through F12 along with an associated text box.

2. **Choose a function key and type your message in the text box beside it.**

   The text is not limited to the line size or window area, so you can continue typing up to 256 characters. Repeat step 2 for each function key you use.

3. **Click Save to store your Quick Say messages.**

4. **Choose Exit to return to your iCommunicator window.**

Tip: If you want to assign twelve more messages, check the iSho w

Shiftî box and continue entering messages.

Delivering Quick Say Messages

To deliver a quick say message:

1. **Press the function key you assigned for the message.**

   Your preprogrammed message appears in the Say This, Note This text box.

2. **Press Enter.**

   The iCommunicator program sends the message to the speakers and hearing assistive device.

Tip: Deliver the first twelve Quick Say messages by pressing the appropriate function key assigned to your message. Deliver the second twelve Quick Say messages by pressing the **shift** key and the appropriate function key.

Reviewing Quick Say Messages

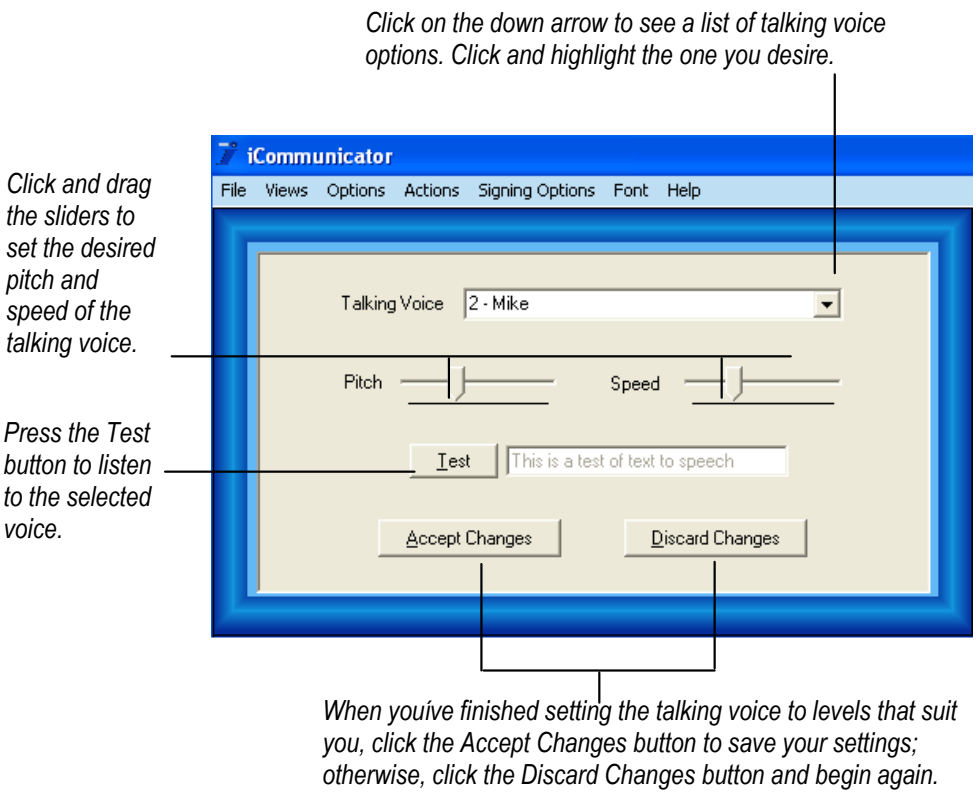
You can review your last ten Quick Say messages. Click the list button in the Say This, Note This box to view your messages.

Set the Talking Voice

You can select the voice, pitch, and speed for iCommunicatorís voice.

To set iCommunicatorís talking voice:

1. **Select Set Talking Voice from the Options menu.**


Click on the down arrow to see a list of talking voice options. Click and highlight the one you desire.
Click and drag the sliders to set the desired pitch and speed of the talking voice.
Press the Test button to listen to the selected voice.
iCommunicator
File Views Options Actions Signing Options Font Help
Talking Voice
2 - Mike
Pitch
Speed
Test
This is a test of text to speech
Accept Changes
Discard Changes
When youíve finished setting the talking voice to levels that suit you, click the Accept Changes button to save your settings; otherwise, click the Discard Changes button and begin again.

2. **Click the Talking Voice list button and select a voice.**
3. **Type a few words in the text box and press the Test button to test the voice.**
4. **Move the sliders to set the pitch and speed.**
5. **Choose Accept Changes to save your selection, or choose Discard Changes to begin again.**

Loading a Speakerís Speech Files

To recognize incoming speech, you must tell the iCommunicator program which speech files to use. Refer to Chapter 4 for more information about speech files.

To load speech files:

1. **Click the current speakerís name at the bottom of the Control Window to display a list of speakers.**
   or

   From the Options menu, select Speech Recognition Change Current Speaker.

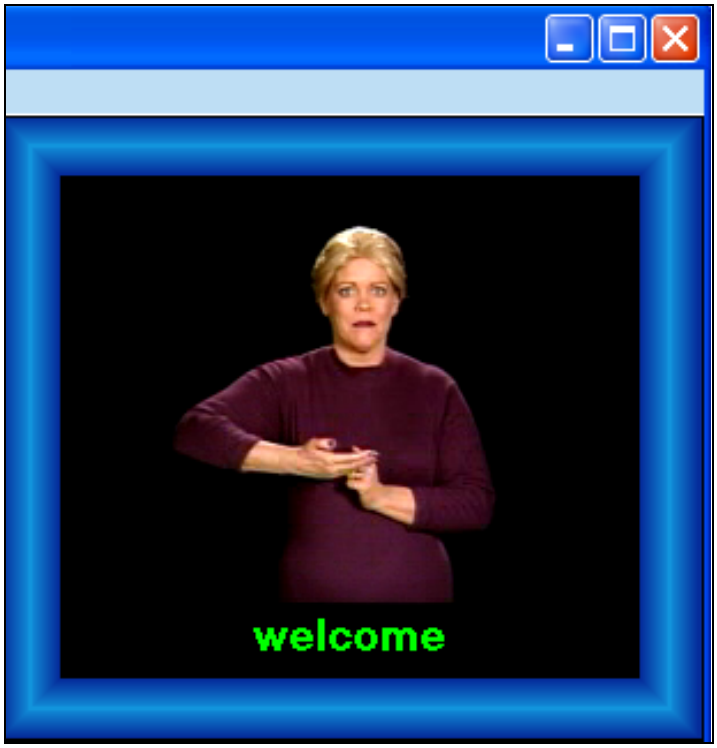
2. **Select a speaker name from the list.**

   You will see the message, ìChanging active speech files. Please wait.î

When the iCommunicator program is ready to receive, the new speakerís name appears at the bottom of the Control Window.

The Signing Window

The signing window displays sign language and fingerspelling videos.



To turn on the signing option:

From the Options menu, choose Enable Signing.

A check mark appears on the menu.

To turn signing off:

Click Enable Signing again.

The check mark disappears; indicating the signing option is disabled.

To control the speed of signing:

Select Options and choose a signing speed. The higher the number you choose, the faster the signing.

Locking and Unlocking the Signing Window

You can choose to turn off and lock the signing feature. When you choose the Signing Locked option, all commands for the signing option disappear from the iCommunicator menus. A check mark appears on the Options menu to indicate signing is locked. A user cannot unlock and use the signing feature unless they enter the correct password.

To lock or unlock the signing window:

1. **From the Control Window Options menu, choose Signing Locked.**

   The password window appears.

2. **Enter a password in the Password window text box.**

   Note: **defaultpassword** is the password when the iCommunicator program ships from the factory. You must type defaultpassword in the text box before attempting to lock signing or change the password.

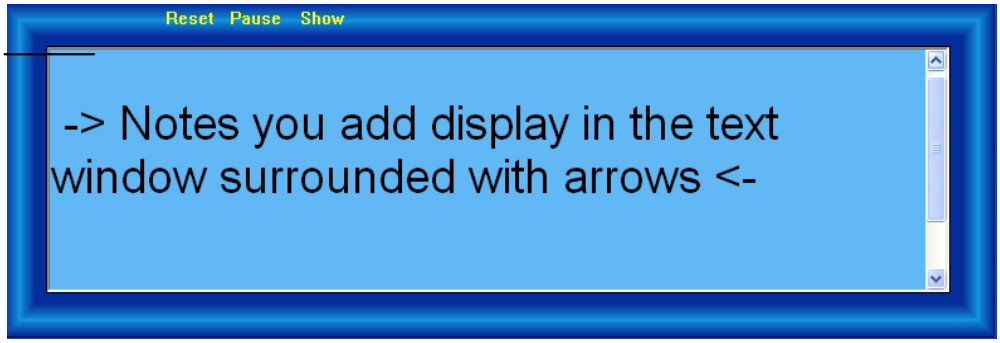
3. **Choose the Enter button to enter a password, the Change button to change your password, or the cancel button to close the password window without changes. Follow the instructions on your screen.**

   IMPORTANT: Remember the password you enter. You will need it to unlock the signing feature.

The Text Window

As iCommunicator recognizes speech, it converts it to text and displays it in the Text window. You can also enter text from the keyboard. For example, you may want to insert notes during a classroom lecture, or simply display your two-way conversation.

Use the Font menu to change font size.



To add your own notes to the text window:

1. **Click in the Say This, Note This text box.**
2. **Type your text.**
3. **Press the Control and Enter key.**

   Your notes appear in the text window enclosed by arrows.

Changing the Text Window Font Size

You can change the look of the text by changing the font size.

To change the font size in the Text Window:

1. **From the Font menu, select the size you want, and then click OK.**

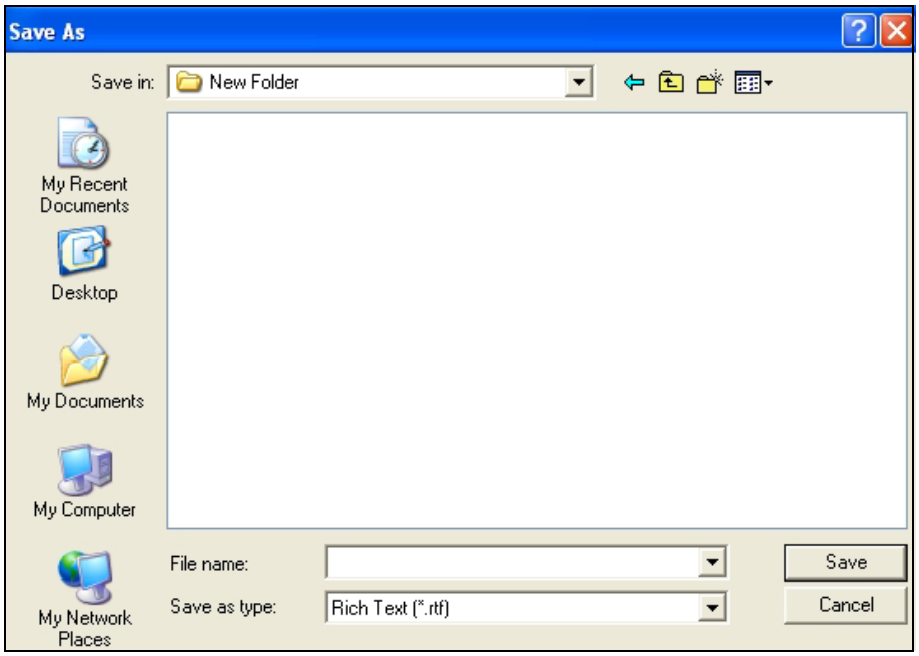
Saving the Contents of the Text Window

The iCommunicator program lets you save the information it displays in the text window. Once saved, you can edit it using a word processor, such as Notepad or Microsoft Word.

To save the contents of the text window:

1. **From the File menu, select Save As.**

   The Save As dialog box appears.



   Select directories and drives from the Directories list, if you want to save a copy in a different directory or drive.

2. **In the File name text box, enter the name of the file.**

3. **Choose Save.**

Clearing the Text Window

You can clear the contents of the of the Text window.

To clear the text window:

1. **Select New from the File menu.**

   The program will prompt you to confirm your action.

2. **If you are sure you want to clear the text window, choose Yes.**

To clear the contents of the text window each time you turn the program on:

Select Clear Text Window when starting from the Options menu.

Changing the Windows Theme

You can choose from several preprogrammed themes to change the look and color of the iCommunicator windows.

To change your windows theme:

1. **From the Views menu, select Themes.**
2. **Choose a theme name.**

Retrieving a Sign for a Word

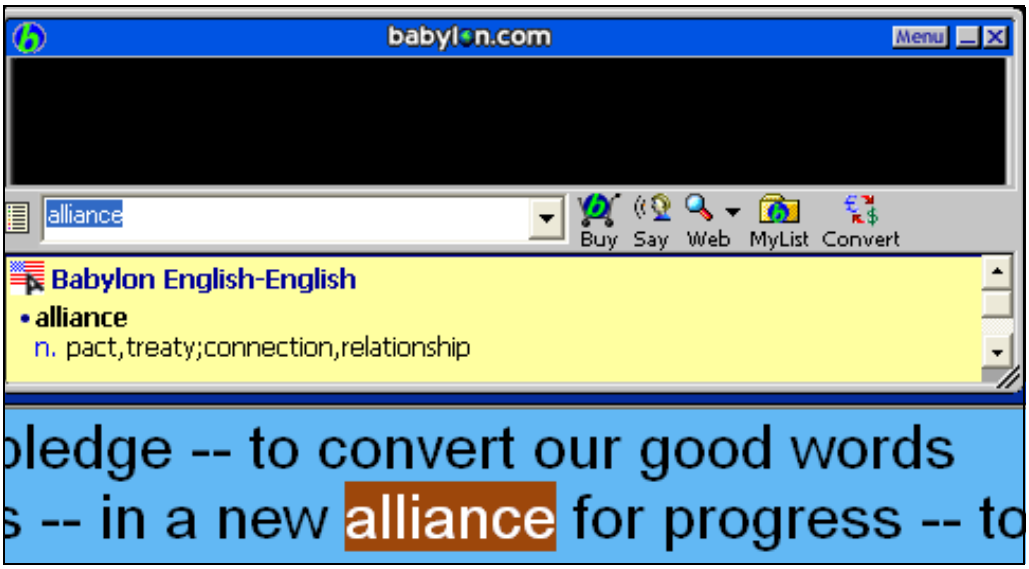
There are two ways to retrieve a sign for a word displayed in the text window. Place the cursor on a word, such as *numerous*. If the sign is not in the video sign language dictionary, the program fingerspells the word.

1. **Double click on the word with the left mouse.**
2. **Click the Show button on the Text window border. The sign for the word displays in the Signing window.**

Another option for displaying the sign for a word is to select Word List from the Signing Options Menu. An alphabetical list of words in the signing video library appears in the dropdown list. Choose a word and then click the check mark to view the accompanying signing video.

Using the Electronic Dictionary

You can obtain the definition for a word displayed in the text window by placing the cursor on the word. Then press Shift+Right click to reveal the definition. The electronic dictionary will also pronounce the word when you click on the ìS ayî i con.



Notes

4

Speech Recognition

Before the iCommunicator user can have two-way communication, each speaker must train the program to recognize his or her voice and speech patterns. Once trained, the iCommunicator program can then match the speakerís specific sound patterns to words. The following lists important tips for successful speech and voice recognition training:

Consistent microphone positioning is important to maintain translation accuracy. Squeeze the foam windscreen over the microphone to help identify the surface of the microphone.

The LightSPEED boom microphone should be positioned along the left jaw line, about an inch from the left corner of the mouth. For maximum performance, the rounded portion of the LightSPEED microphone element should be positioned in front of the chin and not directly in front of the mouth. The flat side of the microphone is then directed away from the face.

The Parrott Bermuda microphone should be positioned along the jaw line. The flat part of the Parrott microphone should be worn so it is located one finger-width from the corner of the mouth.

Check the LightSPEED battery indicator light on both the receiver and transmitter frequently. Red indicates the unit is on and has battery power. The LED does not illuminate when the battery power is exhausted.

Speak clearly and continuously. Maintain your normal vocal effort and volume, and speak all words completely.

Correct recognition mistakes and add words to the vocabulary.

Run General Training again to increase recognition accuracy.

Creating and Managing Users

To train the iCommunicator program, begin by using the New User Wizard. After the software has been installed, it is necessary to Create a New Speaker in order to use the software program. The New User Wizard prompts you to create new user voice files. It usually takes about fifteen minutes to complete the New User Wizard. Begin reading aloud while Dragon NaturallySpeaking tests your voice for pronunciation, volume, and speed.

The New User Wizard window has elements that work the same as the elements in other Windows applications. If you are not familiar with basic Windows elements, we suggest you refer to your *Windows User Guides* for a complete explanation of Windows elements.

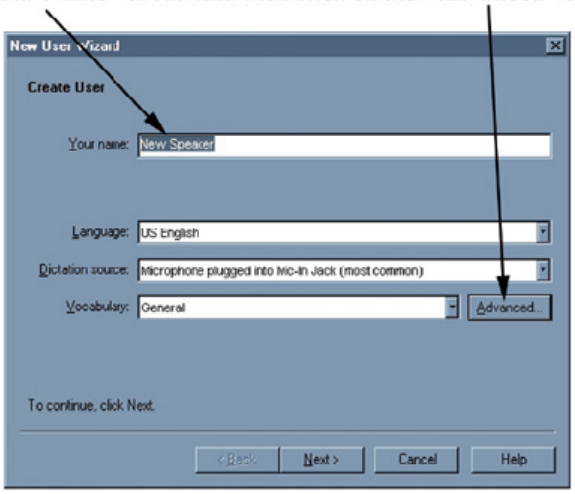
To create a new user:

1. **From the Control window Options menu, choose Speech Recognition and Create New Speaker.**

The iCommunicator Info window appears.

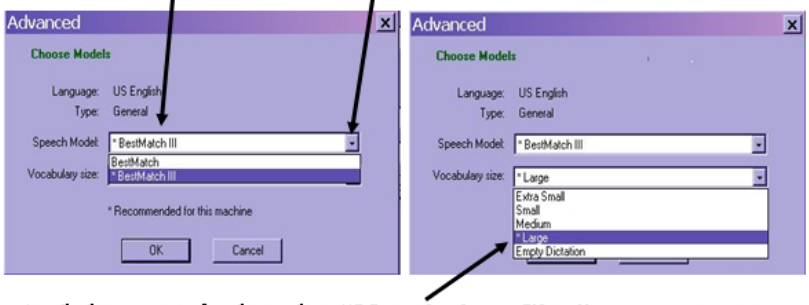
iCommunicator Info Window

*When the New User Wizard window appears, type the desired name in the **"Your Name"** area. And then click on the **"Advanced"** option.*



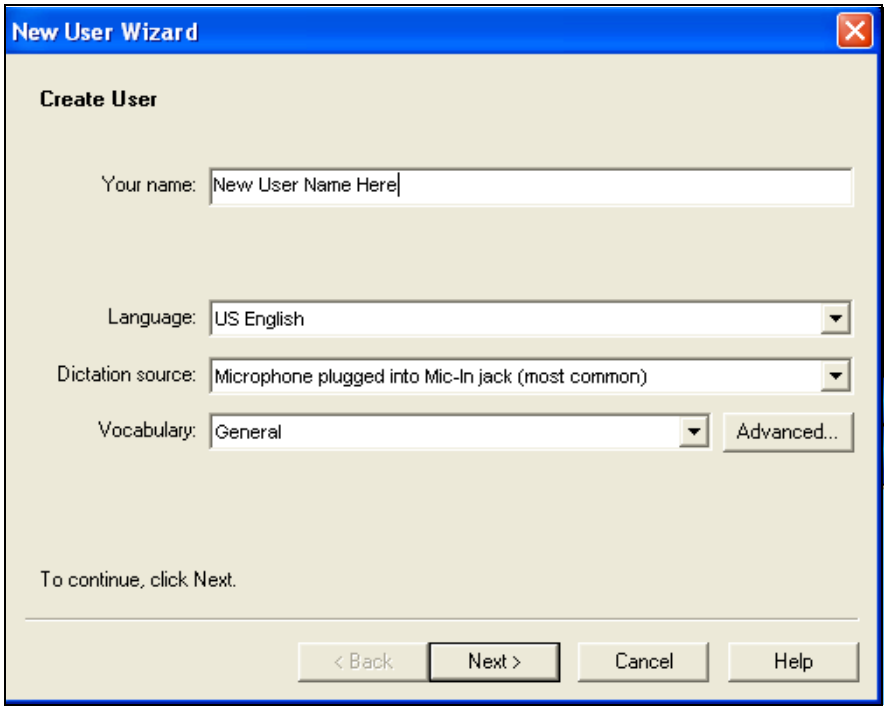
2. Read the screen information, and then click OK.

*In the Advanced window ensure that the "**Speech Model**" is **BestMatch III**. If not, click on the drop down menu and then select **BestMatch III**.*



*And then verify that the "**Vocabulary Size**" option is set to **Large**. If not select it from the drop down menu, then Click Ok.*

The New User Wizardís Create User window appears.



3. **On the Create User window, enter a unique name for the user.**
4. **Choose a Language type (US English most common) and Dictation source (Microphone plugged into Mic-in Jack most common).**
5. **Select the Advanced button to choose a speech model and vocabulary size.**

   You must select the BestMatch III Model as the Speech model, and Large as the Vocabulary size.

6. **Choose OK to accept your changes.**
7. **Click Next.**

   Read and follow the instructions for connecting your microphone, choosing your input device, and positioning your microphone.

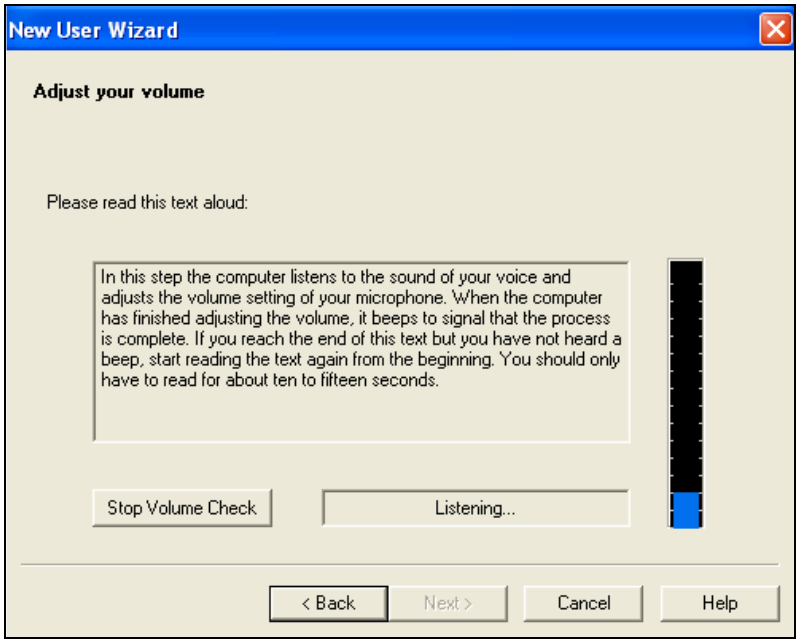
   Continue to calibrate your microphoneís volume.

Calibrating your Microphoneís Volume

Calibrating your microphoneís volume is important to achieve successful voice recognition.

To adjust the microphone volume:

1. **Click the Start Volume Check button.**


New User Wizard
Adjust your volume
Please read this text aloud:
In this step the computer listens to the sound of your voice and adjusts the volume setting of your microphone. When the computer has finished adjusting the volume, it beeps to signal that the process is complete. If you reach the end of this text but you have not heard a beep, start reading the text again from the beginning. You should only have to read for about ten to fifteen seconds.
Stop Volume Check
Listening...
< Back
Next >
Cancel
Help

Click the Start Volume Check button and follow the instructions as they appear in your window.

Your computer will adjust the volume setting for your voice. Be sure to speak clearly and in your normal voice.

When the computer beeps, the process is done.

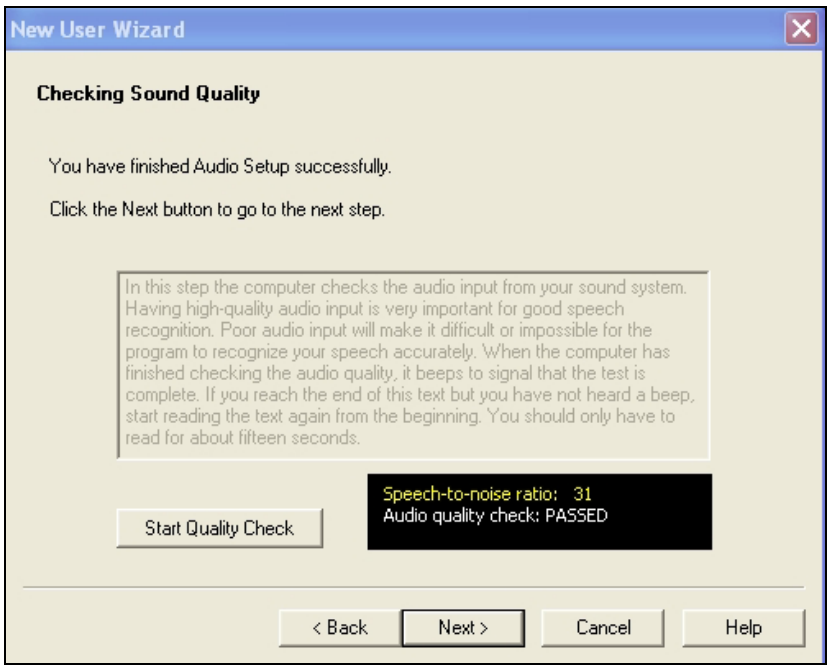
2. **Begin reading aloud.**
3. **When the volume level is set, click Next to continue.**

When the volume adjusts successfully, the message ìFinished!î appears in the Volume status area of the adjustment screen.

Checking Audio Quality

To check your audio quality:

1. **Click the Start Quality Check button.**


New User Wizard
Checking Sound Quality
You have finished Audio Setup successfully.
Click the Next button to go to the next step.
In this step the computer checks the audio input from your sound system. Having high-quality audio input is very important for good speech recognition. Poor audio input will make it difficult or impossible for the program to recognize your speech accurately. When the computer has finished checking the audio quality, it beeps to signal that the test is complete. If you reach the end of this text but you have not heard a beep, start reading the text again from the beginning. You should only have to read for about fifteen seconds.
Start Quality Check
Speech-to-noise ratio: 31
Audio quality check: PASSED
< Back
Next >
Cancel
Help

Click the Start Quality Check button and follow the instructions in your window.

Your computer will check the audio quality of your microphone. Be sure to speak clearly and in normal voice.

When the computer beeps, the process is done.

2. **Read the paragraph in the middle of the screen.**

   When the quality check completes, a message displays along with the signal-to-noise ratio value. A minimum value of 22 is required. A value in the mid twenties to low thirties range is common. A lower value will degrade speech recognition performance.

3. **Click the Next button.**

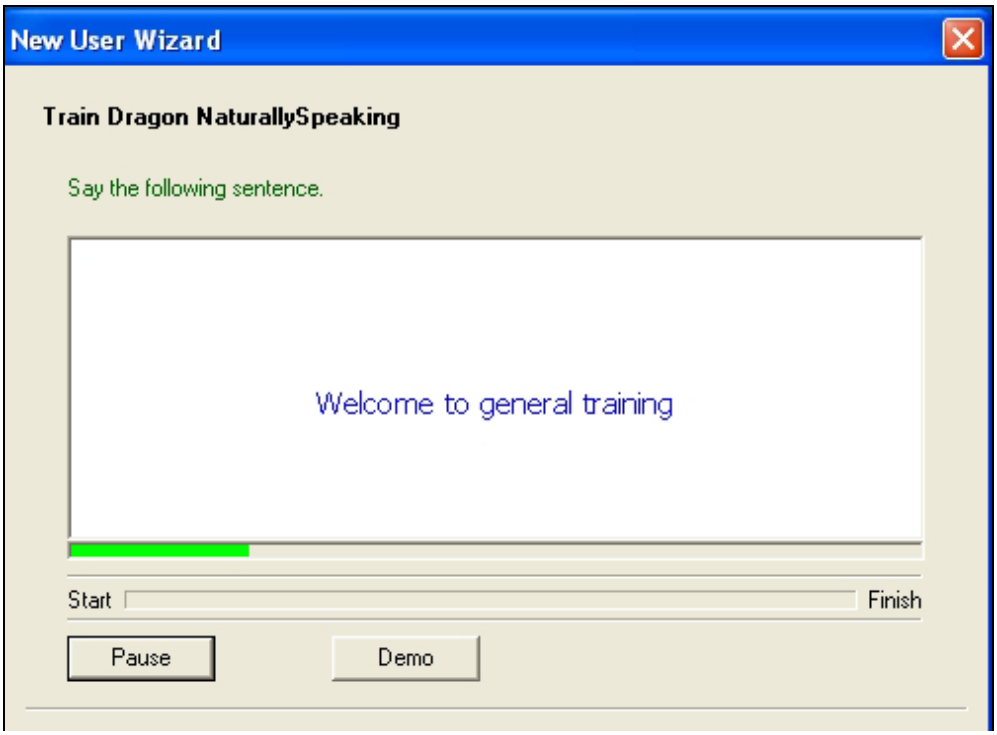
   Continue with general voice training.

   Note: You must complete the General Training to create a new speaker.

General Voice Training

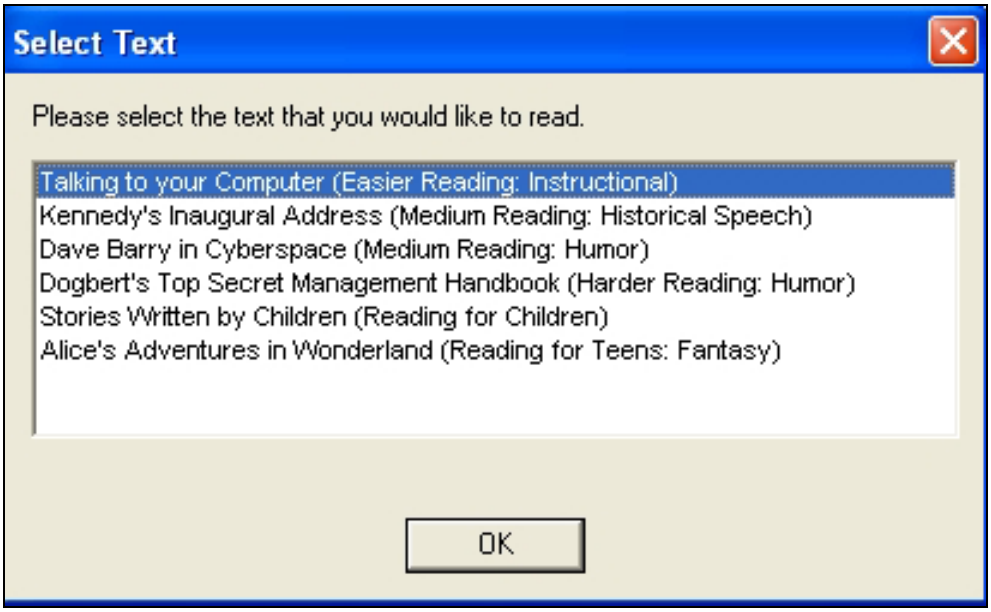
To begin general voice training:

1. **Click the Go button at the bottom of the New User Wizard Train Dragon NaturallySpeaking screen.**



2. **Read the text aloud as it appears in the window.**

   When you complete the required reading, the Select Text screen appears.


Select Text
Please select the text that you would like to read.
Talking to your Computer (Easier Reading: Instructional)
Kennedy's Inaugural Address (Medium Reading: Historical Speech)
Dave Barry in Cyberspace (Medium Reading: Humor)
Dogbert's Top Secret Management Handbook (Harder Reading: Humor)
Stories Written by Children (Reading for Children)
Alice's Adventures in Wonderland (Reading for Teens: Fantasy)
OK

3. **Select a story from the list box, and click OK.**

   Each Story takes approximately ten minutes to read. As Dragon validates your reading, a yellow arrow progresses.

4. **Click the Go button and begin reading aloud.**

After completing the General Training portion, the program should know your voice well enough to accurately recognize what you say. However, reading additional stories may increase accuracy. We also recommend that you run Vocabulary Builder to increase recognition accuracy.

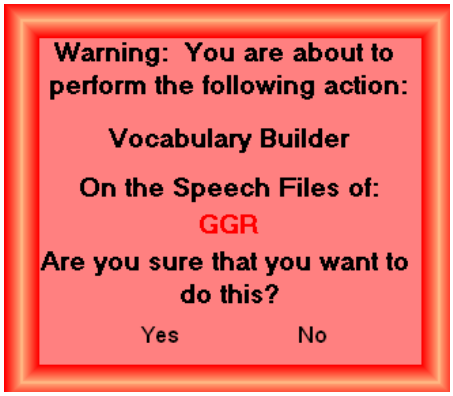
Vocabulary Builder

Vocabulary Builder analyzes documents that already exist on your computer, such as textbook glossaries and chapter summaries, technical documents, manuscripts, class rosters, and vocabulary lists. It gathers information about your specific writing style and identifies any new words so you can add them to the vocabulary.

To start Vocabulary Builder:

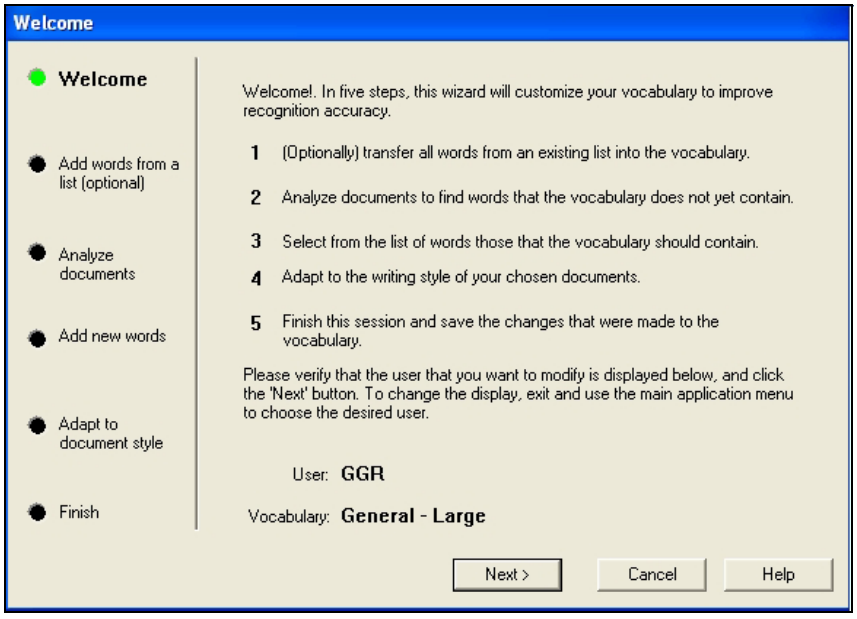
1. **From the Options menu, select Speech Recognition, Vocabulary Builder, Vocabulary Builder.**

   A warning screen appears.


Warning: You are about to perform the following action:
Vocabulary Builder
On the Speech Files of:
GGR
Are you sure that you want to do this?
Yes
No

2. **Choose Yes to continue to Vocabulary Builder, or No to cancel the procedure.**

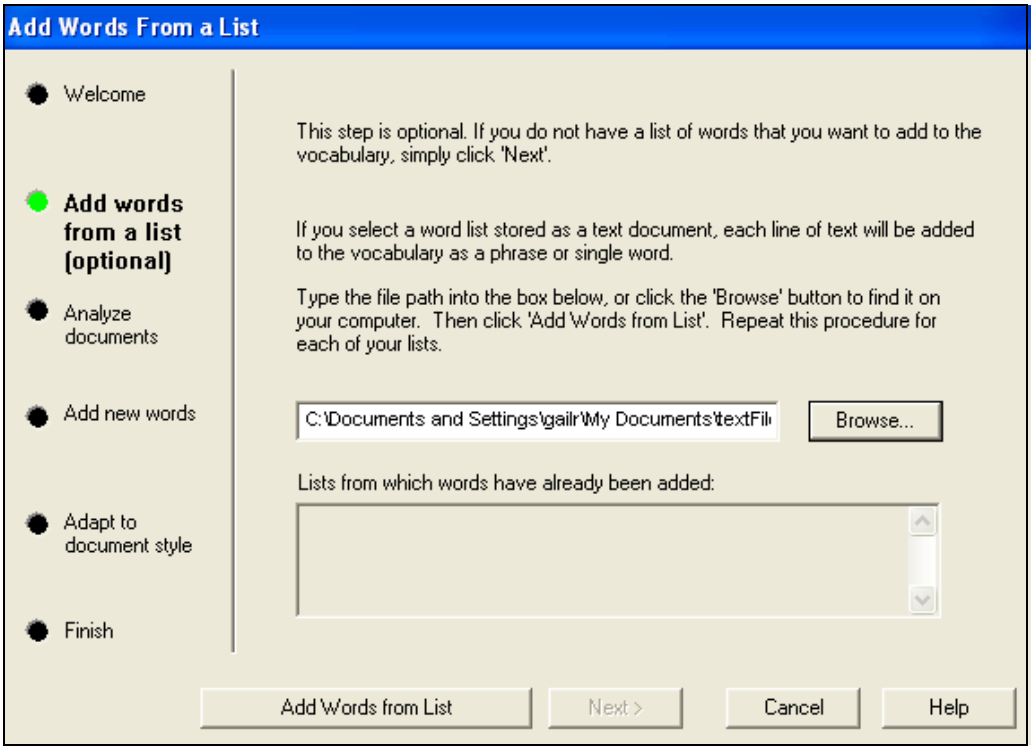
   The Vocabulary Builder Welcome screen appears.


Welcome
Welcome
Add words from a list (optional)
Analyze documents
Add new words
Adapt to document style
Finish
Welcome!. In five steps, this wizard will customize your vocabulary to improve recognition accuracy.
1 (Optionally) transfer all words from an existing list into the vocabulary.
2 Analyze documents to find words that the vocabulary does not yet contain.
3 Select from the list of words those that the vocabulary should contain.
4 Adapt to the writing style of your chosen documents.
5 Finish this session and save the changes that were made to the vocabulary.
Please verify that the user that you want to modify is displayed below, and click the 'Next' button. To change the display, exit and use the main application menu to choose the desired user.
User: GGR
Vocabulary: General - Large
Next >
Cancel
Help

3. **Read the information screen and click Next.**

4. **(Optional) type the file path to the file containing a list of words you want to add, or click Browse to find the file.**

   Note: When you add words this way, you will not have the opportunity to automatically train unfamiliar words. Use Analyze documents to both add words and train. (See next step).


Add Words From a List
Welcome
Add words from a list (optional)
Analyze documents
Add new words
Adapt to document style
Finish
This step is optional. If you do not have a list of words that you want to add to the vocabulary, simply click 'Next'.
If you select a word list stored as a text document, each line of text will be added to the vocabulary as a phrase or single word.
Type the file path into the box below, or click the 'Browse' button to find it on your computer. Then click 'Add Words from List'. Repeat this procedure for each of your lists.
C:\Documents and Settings\gailr\My Documents\textFil
Browse...
Lists from which words have already been added:
Add Words from List
Next >
Cancel
Help

   Note: The word list must be in .TXT format.

5. **If you specify a file, click Add Words from List and click Next.**

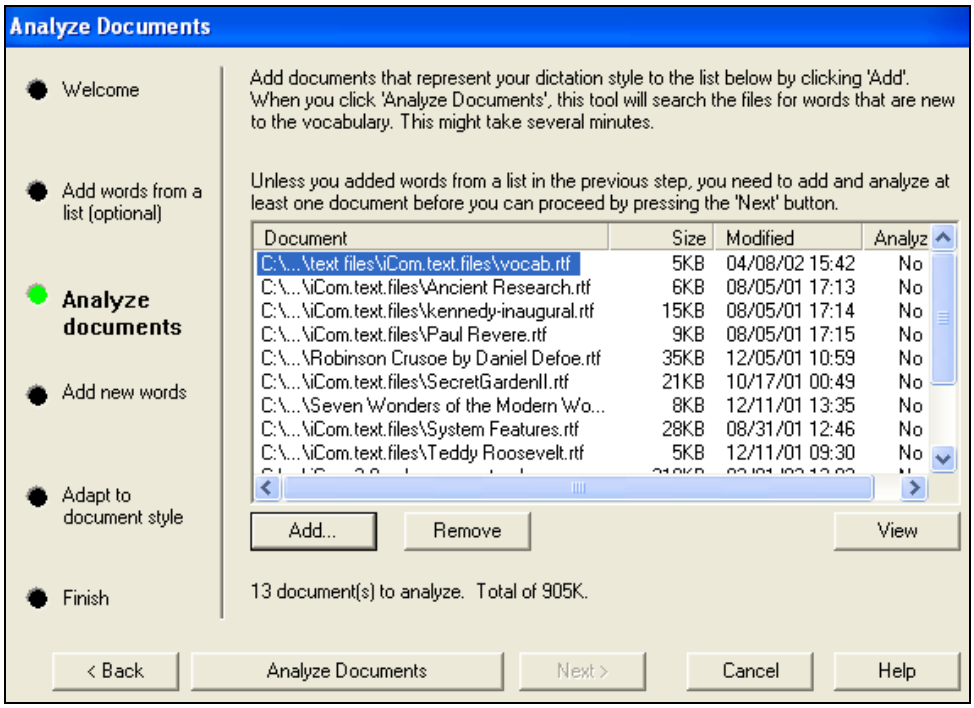
   To skip this step, click Next.

To analyze documents:

1. **Click Add to select a document to analyze, and click Open. You can select multiple documents by holding down the Control key while you select.**

   Your selections are added to the document list**.**

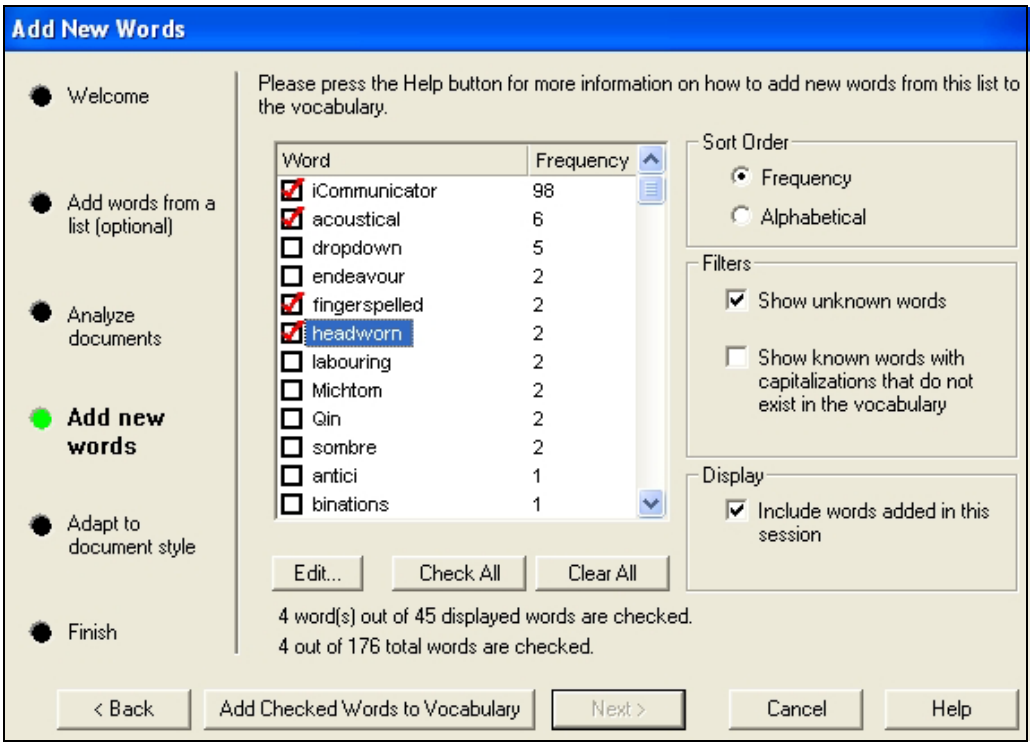
2. **To begin analyzing your documents, click Analyze Documents.**


Analyze Documents
Welcome
Add words from a list (optional)
Analyze documents
Add new words
Adapt to document style
Finish
Add documents that represent your dictation style to the list below by clicking 'Add'. When you click 'Analyze Documents', this tool will search the files for words that are new to the vocabulary. This might take several minutes.
Unless you added words from a list in the previous step, you need to add and analyze at least one document before you can proceed by pressing the 'Next' button.
Document
Size
Modified
Analyz
C:\...\text files\iCom.text.files\vocab.rtf 5KB 04/08/02 15:42 No
C:\...\iCom.text.files\Ancient Research.rtf 6KB 08/05/01 17:13 No
C:\...\iCom.text.files\kennedy-inaugural.rtf 15KB 08/05/01 17:14 No
C:\...\iCom.text.files\Paul Revere.rtf 9KB 08/05/01 17:15 No
C:\...\Robinson Crusoe by Daniel Defoe.rtf 35KB 12/05/01 10:59 No
C:\...\iCom.text.files\SecretGardenII.rtf 21KB 10/17/01 00:49 No
C:\...\Seven Wonders of the Modern Wo... 8KB 12/11/01 13:35 No
C:\...\iCom.text.files\System Features.rtf 28KB 08/31/01 12:46 No
C:\...\iCom.text.files\Teddy Roosevelt.rtf 5KB 12/11/01 09:30 No
Add...
Remove
View
13 document(s) to analyze. Total of 905K.
< Back
Analyze Documents
Next >
Cancel
Help

As document analysis completes, the Analyzed column displays the word ìY esî.

3. **When the program is finished processing all your documents, click Next.**

Vocabulary Builder displays a list of new words found on the Add New Words dialog box. You can add these words to the vocabulary to improve accuracy.



To add new words:

1. **Click the words you want to add to the vocabulary, then choose Add Checked Words to Vocabulary.**

   The message ìDo you want to train the newly added words now?î appears.

2. **Choose Yes, then click record to voice train the new words.**
3. **Click Done when you complete the new word training.**
4. **Click Next to continue.**

   The Adapt to Document Style screen opens.

5. **Select Yes to both options on the Document Style screen and click Next.**
6. **Review the summary information and click Finish to save your changes.**

Adding Additional Users

When a new speaker wants to use the program, that person needs to create his or her own speaker files. Always remember to switch to the appropriate speaker before using the iCommunicator program; otherwise, the program may fail to interpret voice accurately.

To add new users, follow the steps described earlier for the New User Wizard.

Opening Speech Files

When a new speaker begins talking, you must open that speakerís voice file.

To open a speech file:

1. **Click the current speaker name at the bottom of the Control window.**

   A list appears showing the names of all users.

2. **Select a user name.**

   You see the message, ìChanging active speech files, please wait.î

or

From the Options Menu select Speech Recognition, Change Current Speaker, Speakerís speech/voice file name.

When the program is ready to receive the new voice, the speakerís name appears at the bottom of the Control window.

Deleting a Speaker

If you are certain that you no longer need a speaker file, you can delete it. Once you delete a speaker file, it is gone forever. Make sure you donít need it before you remove it. Always use the Delete Speaker menu selection to delete speaker files. Delete Speaker is the only way to properly remove all information about a user.

To delete a user:

1. **At the Control window Options menu, select Speech Recognition and Delete Speaker.**
2. **From Speaker list box, select the name you want to remove, then click Delete and answer yes to the prompt.**
3. **The Done window appears. Click OK.**

Tip: If you want to delete the open user, you must close it first by selecting and opening a different user.

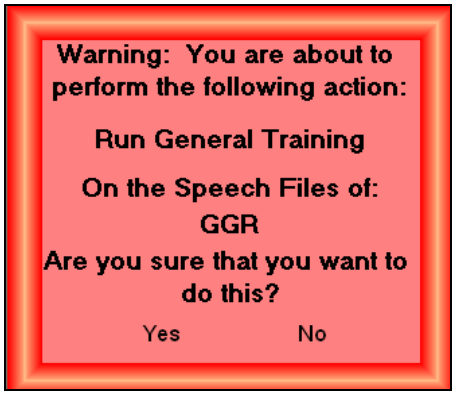
Run General Training Again

If you followed the instructions in this chapter and still have some speech and voice recognition errors, the iCommunicator software program may need additional training. Spend additional time training the program, and you will see an improvement in its translation accuracy. Complete an accuracy check found in the Training Manual. You may run General Training again and engage in more vocabulary building.

To run General Training again:

1. **From the Control window Options Menu, select Speech Recognition and Run General Training.**

   A warning screen appears.


Warning: You are about to perform the following action:
Run General Training
On the Speech Files of:
GGR
Are you sure that you want to do this?
Yes
No

2. **Choose Yes to continue with General Training, or No to cancel the procedure.**
3. **Select a story.**
4. **Click the Train Now button to continue.**
5. **Click the Go button when you are ready to begin training.**
6. **Follow the screen instructions.**

   The more you read, the more the speech recognition software learns about your sound patterns. The General Training session typically takes approximately thirty minutes.

7. **When you are finished reading, click Finish.**

For more detailed instructions, refer to *General Voice Training* described earlier in this chapter.

Run Audio Wizard

The Audio Wizard sets your microphone and sound system for optimal speech recognition. If your microphone status bar continually shows red, you may have an audio problem. Run Audio Wizard to readjust your audio levels.

You should rerun Audio Wizard any time there is a change in your voice or the acoustical environment, and when you change microphones. If you voice train in a different environment from where the iCommunicator is routinely used, rerun the Audio Wizard in the new environment.

To run Audio Wizard:

1. **From the Control window Options menu, choose Speech Recognition, Run Audio Wizard.**

   A warning screen appears.

Warning: You are about to perform the following action:
Run Audio Wizard
On the Speech Files of:
GGR
Are you sure that you want to do this?
Yes
No

2. **Choose Yes to continue to Audio Wizard, or No to cancel the procedure.**

   When you choose yes, the Audio Wizard Welcome screen appears.

3. **Follow the instructions on the screen.**

Refer to *Calibrating Your Microphone* and *Checking Audio Quality* for more detailed instructions.

Using Vocabulary Editor

If the program does not recognize a word or phrase correctly, use Vocabulary Editor to train the program. Vocabulary Editor lists all words in your active vocabulary and lets you add, delete, and train the program to understand your pronunciation.

Warning: You are about to perform the following action:
Run Audio Wizard
On the Speech Files of:
GGR
Are you sure that you want to do this?
Yes
No

2. **Choose Yes to continue to Audio Wizard, or No to cancel the procedure.**

   When you choose yes, the Audio Wizard Welcome screen appears.

3. **Follow the instructions on the screen.**

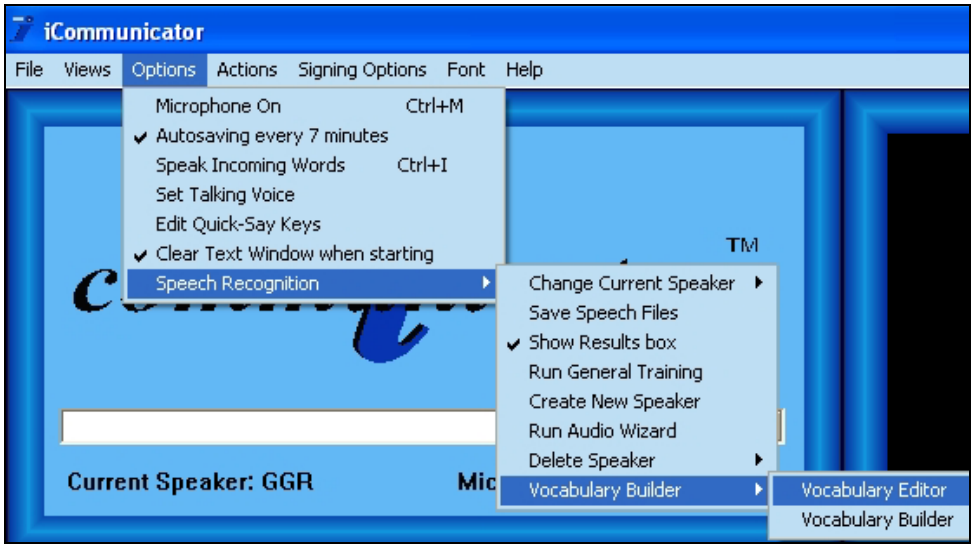
Refer to *Calibrating Your Microphone* and *Checking Audio Quality* for more detailed instructions.

Using Vocabulary Editor

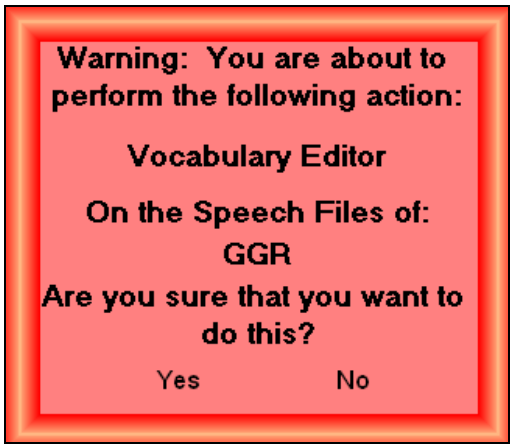
If the program does not recognize a word or phrase correctly, use Vocabulary Editor to train the program. Vocabulary Editor lists all words in your active vocabulary and lets you add, delete, and train the program to understand your pronunciation.

To run Vocabulary Editor:

1. **From the Control window Options menu, choose Speech Recognition, Vocabulary Builder, and Vocabulary Editor.**



A warning screen appears.


Warning: You are about to perform the following action:
Vocabulary Editor
On the Speech Files of:
GGR
Are you sure that you want to do this?
Yes
No

2. **Choose Yes to continue with Vocabulary Editor or No to cancel the procedure.**

3. **Type or locate the word you want to train in the written form word list.**

   If the word does not appear, add it to the active vocabulary before you train it.

4. **Select the word.**

   Note: To select more than one word, hold down the Ctrl key while you select.

5. **Click the Train button.**

6. **Choose Record.**

   The word or phrase appears in the written form column of the Train Words box.

7. **Speak the word or phrase clearly.**

8. **Click Done.**

Correcting Speech Recognition Errors

When iCommunicator translates a word or phrase incorrectly, it is important that you correct its recognition mistake. Correcting mistakes teaches the program not to make the same mistakes again and makes iCommunicator more accurate. You can correct mistakes as soon as they happen or go back and correct them later.

When you see a mistake in your last word or phrase, you can stop and correct it by saying, ìcorrect thatî.

To correct your last word or phrase:

1. **Repeat the word or phrase once so that it appears (incorrectly translated) on a line by itself.**

2. **Say ìCorrect Thatî, an d then wait until the Correction window appears.**

3. **If the correct word or phrase appears on the Correction windowís choices, select it.**

OR

Click on ì Spell Thatî. If the correct word or phrase appears as a choice, select it. If the correct word or phrase does not appear, type it into the text box.

4. **Place a check in the ìTrai n how to pronounce thisî box. Then click OK.**

   The Train Words window appears with both the correct and incorrect word. Teach the program how each word sounds as you record them.

5. **Choose ìGoî , speak the first word in the text box, and then speak the second word.**

6. **Click Done.**

7. **Save your speech files (Options Speech Recognition Save Speech Files).**

To go back to correct a word or phrase:

8. **Say ìCorrect (x)î, wher e (x) is the word or phrase you wish to correct.**

9. **Follow the steps above.**

   Tip: After you correct a word or phrase, use it in a sentence so the program recognizes it in context.

Refer to your Dragon NaturallySpeaking Userís Guide or Help Menu for more information.

The Show Results Box

You can choose to turn on a small window that displays the results of the voice analysis as it occurs. This feature will help you analyze recognition problems.

To turn on the Show Results box:

- **From the Control window Options menu, select Voice Recognition, Show Results Box.**

  A small window appears in the upper left corner of your desktop. A check mark appears on menu option.

To turn off Show Results:

- **Select Show Results Box again.**

  The check mark disappears. The option is disabled.

Archiving and Restoring Speech/Voice Recognition Files

There may be times when it is necessary to backup a speakerís speech/voice (S/V) file:

a speaker completes S/V recognition training on one computer and needs to transfer the S/V file to another computer

to remove a speakerís S/V file from a computer and save it for future use

This file size limits storage to Zip Drives, Local Area Network (LAN), LS-120 SuperDisk Drives, or CD-R (W) Drives. Follow the procedures below to archive and restore a speakerís S/V recognition file. Review each procedure before initiating the process.

Location

Each speaker who establishes a S/V file in the program has his or her own named folder inside the Users folder. S/V files for iCommunicator V. 3.0 are located in C:\Program Files\Dragon\NaturallySpeaking\Users\Speaker S/V file name.

Archive Procedure

Use Windows Explorer to copy S/V files to the appropriate external device destination, such as a Zip Drive, LAN, Superdisk Drive, or CD-R/W.

1. **From the Windows Start button, select Programs Accessories Windows Explorer.**
2. **To back up all S/V files on the program, navigate to the User folder (My Computer, C: Drive, Program Files, Dragon, NaturallySpeaking, Users, Speaker S/V file name). Select the User folder, and then copy it to the appropriate destination.**
3. **To backup a specific S/V file, navigate down one level and then select speakerís S/V folder you wish to backup. (From the left panel select My Computer. Then select the following path: C:\ProgramFiles\Dragon\NaturallySpeaking\Users\ Speaker S/V file name).**
4. **Copy the speakerís S/V folder to the appropriate destination.**

Restoring Speaker S/V Files

1. **To restore all speakers, copy the previously backed-up User folder to drive C:\Program Files\Dragon\NaturallySpeaking.**

   Tip: This process replaces all speaker files currently on the iCommunicator program. If S/V files on the program are valid, use the backup procedure described above before initiating the restore process.

2. **To restore a specific S/V file, copy the speakerís S/V backup file to drive C:\Program Files\Dragon\NaturallySpeaking\Users\Speaker S/V file name**
3. **Start iCommunicator.**
4. **From the Options menu, select Speech Recognition Create New Speaker.**
5. **Enter the correct voice file name in the Your Name field, and then continue until the Audio Wizard Setup is complete.**
6. **Select Cancel and close the iCommunicator program.**
7. **You must run Audio Setup the first time you use the restored S/V file.**

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